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TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 601 H.D. 1,  
RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS FROM REGISTRATION FEES

PRESENTATION TO THE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

BY

MR. RONALD P. HAN  
DIRECTOR OF STATE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

April 3, 2019  
10:20 a.m.

Good morning, Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

I am Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services (OVS). I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony **in support** of the concepts in House Bill 601 H.D.1.

This measure would repeal the requirement that disabled veterans be in receipt of disability retirement pay in order to be exempt from paying the annual vehicle registration fees. Veterans who qualify, if this measure is adopted, must be a resident of Hawaii, a 100% disabled veteran as determined by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) and received an "other than dishonorable discharge".

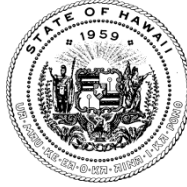
Service connected 100% disabled Veterans served valiantly in uniform in support and in defense of our country. The freedoms we enjoy today have been paved by their dedicated and honored service. This is a small token of our appreciation for their heralded duty. There are currently 3790 VA rated 100% disabled Veterans that reflect Hawaii as their home or residence.

We defer to the agency with direct responsibility for implementation.

The OVS supports the intent expressed in this measure as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Budget.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Hawaii's Veterans and their families.

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**TESTIMONY BY:**

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**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
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April 3, 2019  
10:20 a.m.  
State Capitol, Room 211

**H.B. 601, H.D. 1  
RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS FROM REGISTRATION FEES.**

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill.

The DOT generally does not support exemptions as reductions in revenue are detrimental to the health of the State Highway Fund. This bill seeks to expand the exemption from payment of vehicle registration fees for disabled veterans residing in Hawaii with a 100-percent disability rating, to include those who are pre-retired, which could decrease vehicle registration revenues by approximately \$118,000. The DOT recognizes that these exemptions will assist our disabled veterans, and thus, we support this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.